NAL INCORPORATED 1835

OFFICE OF THE COUNTY EXECUTIVE

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MILWAUKEE COUNTY EXECUTIVE

For Immediate Release

September 6, 2011

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County War Memorial Acquires Steel from World Trade Center Steel to Be Unveiled at 10th Memorial 9/11 Ceremony, Permanently Displayed

MILWAUKEE – The Milwaukee County War Memorial has acquired a piece of steel from the World Trade Center that will be unveiled on Sept. 11 to commemorate the 10- year anniversary of the 9/11 attacks and later installed in a permanent memorial there.

The unveiling will take place at a solemn anniversary ceremony from 7:30 - 8:15 a.m. Sunday Sept. 11 on the War Memorial's Fitch Plaza. The piece of steel will later become part of the War Memorial's permanent collection and placed on display.

"All Americans were deeply touched by the tragic attacks of Sept. 11," Milwaukee County Executive Chris Abele said. "This stirring symbol of the tragedy will serve as a reminder of that terrible day and help honor the heroes of that day and the memory of those whose lives were lost."

The ceremony, which will take place during the time of the first of the Sept. 11, 2001, attacks, will include the combined honor guard of the Milwaukee County Sheriff's Department and the Milwaukee County Fire Department, the Badger Marine Corps League, Milwaukee County First Responders, Reverend Carl Krueger, Cudahy High School Senior Nathan Hennlich and singer Mary Treadaway. The general public is welcome to attend. Attendees will also be invited to ring the USS Milwaukee – 1906 bell.

The War Memorial, Art Museum, Veterans Board, and Milwaukee Fire and Police unions decided in late 2009 to jointly pursue creating a local 9/11 memorial and determined the War Memorial was a suitable location. The staff at the War Memorial then began the process of acquiring an artifact from the Twin Towers.

Recently, the New York/New Jersey Port Authority approved their application. Joseph Campbell, president of West Allis' Machinery and Welder Corporation and a Vietnam veteran, is driving a company truck to New York to pick up the steel and bring it to Milwaukee. The artifact is expected to arrive at the War Memorial on Sept. 9. The design and permanent location within the County War Memorial have not been finalized.

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